GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:963
ANSWERED ON:27.07.2001
REJECTION OF INDIAN WHEAT
RAMESH CHAND TOMAR;SHYAMA SINGH

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have allocated the task of cleaning up of wheat, which was rejected by the Government of Iraq to a private company;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for exporting Indian wheat to Government of Iraq at the initial stage;

(d) the losses suffered by the Government on the allocation of clean up task to a private company;

(e) whether the Government have fixed responsibility for export of this wheat;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and
(g) if not, the reasons thereto?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI CHAUHAN)

(a): No, Sir.

(b): Does not arise.

(c): In order to liquidate surplus stocks of wheat lying in the Central Pool of FCI, which was adding to their carrying costs, Government decided to offer wheat for export. The State Trading Corporation (STC) and seven parties had entered into a contract with the Grain Board of Iraq for supply of 3.5 lakh MTs of wheat under the UN `Food for Oil` Programme.

(d): Does not arise in view of the reply to part (a) above.

(e),(f)&(g): The export of wheat has not been directly undertaken by the Food Corporationof India. The exporters have been given the freedom to identify wheat stocks for export. However on receipt of reports of rejection of wheat consignments from India, it was decided that no further consignment of wheat would be sent to Iraq, unless it was cleaned to meet the specifications of the Grain Board of Iraq.